

Seamless Summer Option Packet and Program Requirements

The LEA agrees to adhere to the special requirements of the Seamless Summer Option, which are described in the following paragraphs.

General Program Administration and Sponsor Responsibilities

The LEA demonstrates financial and administrative capability for program operations and accepts final financial and administrative responsibility for total program operations at all sites.

Site Eligibility

Open Sites

Schools that operate academic summer school sessions at approved sites must be open for meals to all children in the area eligible community. Otherwise, schools will not be eligible to participate in the Seamless Summer Option, and meals at such schools will be reimbursed based on the individual student eligibility for free, reduced price, or paid rates.

To the greatest extent possible, sites will be located in eligible areas, that is, where 50 percent or more of the children qualify for free or reduced price school meals. These sites will be open to the community located in the eligible area, except that in some cases, participation may later be limited for reasons of safety, security, or control. Sites approved as an open site will be eligible to participate in this option for 5 years (unless the LEA has significant problems operating any Child Nutrition Program).

Closed enrolled sites or camps may operate under the Seamless Summer Option, under the following conditions:

Closed Enrolled Site

In addition to providing the name and address, for each closed enrolled site, the LEA must explain:

- Whether the sites are located in eligible areas,
- How the LEA determined that at least 50 percent of the enrolled group of children in a non-eligible area qualify for free/reduced price school meals,
- Why the LEA is sponsoring closed sites.

Camp and Migrant Sites

To operate under the Seamless Summer Option, in addition to providing the name and address, for each camp site, the LEA must provide the following information:

- Whether the camp is residential or non-residential,
- Whether it is located in an eligible area,
- Why it is sponsoring the camp, and
- Provide a statement certifying that only the meals served to children determined to be eligible for free/reduced price meals will be claimed for reimbursement.
- Migrant sites must have certification from a migrant organization.

Year-round schools may operate approved sites for off-track students, provided that the sites are open to all children in the area eligible community. Meals for on-track students will be reimbursed based on the individual student eligibility for free, reduced price, or paid rates.

The LEA will not claim any meals under the Seamless Summer Option at any site without receiving prior written approval from the State Agency.

Times of Operation

These times are:

- May through September for schools operating on a traditional school year calendar;
- Other times during the year for schools operating on a continuous school calendar (i.e., year-round) when all or part of the children are on vacation for at least 15 continuous school days *; and
- October through April for unanticipated school closures. **

* The 15-day requirement is based on the SFSP regulatory definition of a continuous school calendar as one in which a school operates year-round with scheduled breaks lasting at least 15 continuous school days per break. Therefore, LEAs may operate the Seamless Summer Option at year-round schools during breaks lasting 15 continuous school days. However, if it is the policy of the school district to break for shorter periods of time, the State Agency may waive the 15-day requirement to accommodate year-round schools with shorter scheduled breaks under certain conditions.

** LEAs may operate the Seamless Summer Option when schools are closed due to natural disasters, major building repairs, court orders relating to school safety or other issues, labor-management disputes, or when approved by the State Agency for similar causes. However, meals may only be served at non-school sites. Note: year-round schools may respond to unanticipated school closures at any time of the year.

Participant Eligibility

All persons meeting the definition of *Children* are eligible to participate. This includes all persons in the community who are 18 years of age and under and those persons over age 18 who meet the State Agency definition of mentally or physically disabled persons.

Meal Service Requirements

The LEA will follow NSLP meal service requirements for lunch or snacks (§210.10) and SBP meal service requirements (§220.8) for breakfast. With State Agency approval, the LEA may serve a supper meal, using applicable NSLP meal service requirements for lunches.

Consistent with NSLP and SBP regulations and instructions, the following provisions will apply to meal service at approved sites:

- Second meals are not reimbursable and may not be claimed.

- Production and menu records will be maintained that show compliance with meal requirements.
- The designated lunch period will be between the hours of 10 a.m. and 2 p.m., unless otherwise exempted by the State Agency (such as supper service that would not occur during these hours).
- The LEA may allow offer versus serve meals at approved sites.
- Off-site consumption of meals will not be allowed, except as part of a scheduled event such as a planned field trip.

Number and Types of Reimbursable Meals

The number and types of meals are described below:

- All sites except camps or migrant sites: With State Agency approval, the LEA may serve up to two meals at all sites, except for camps or migrant sites. Meal service may include breakfast, lunch, snack, or supper. The LEA may not claim both lunch and supper meals at the same site on the same day.
- Camps and migrant sites: With State Agency approval, the LEA may serve up to three meals or two meals and a snack per day.

Meal Charges

There will be no charge for reimbursable meals served to eligible participants. Meals at all approved sites, except camps, will be served free to all children. However, sponsors of camps may charge for the meals served to children who are ineligible to receive free or reduced price school meals; sponsors may claim reimbursement at the free rate only for children who are eligible for free or reduced price rates for school meals.

Claims and Reimbursements

The LEA may claim meals at the “free” rates prescribed by USDA for the NSLP (including snacks) and the SBP. However, meals served at camps that are approved as sites are reimbursable only for children who are eligible for free or reduced price rates for school meals. Supper meals, if permitted by the State Agency, may be claimed at the free rate for NSLP lunches. All lunches and suppers served under this option will receive the standard commodity support rate available for the NSLP. Approved sites that qualify for the severe need breakfast rate will continue to receive this differential. Camps participating in the Seamless Summer Option may not claim any meals at the NSLP paid rate for campers who are ineligible for free or reduced price meals.

Monitoring

The LEA will review the meal counting, claiming, and meal pattern compliance within three (3) weeks of starting operations for all sites and sites operated by non-LEA personnel. The onsite school review form is available on line at:
http://dese.mo.gov/divadm/food/PDF/onsite_review_summer_option_sites.pdf.

Additional Reporting/Reviews/Evaluation

The State Agency will include approved sites operating under this option in the management review requirements described at 210.18 of the NSLP regulations. If a Coordinated Review Effort (CRE) is conducted in the same calendar year as the

Seamless Summer Option, at least one approved site will be visited while it is in operation.

Food and Nutrition Services (FNS) reserves the right to conduct an evaluation of these approved sites. The evaluation may include periodic special reviews. The LEA agrees to cooperate as necessary, including making all applicable records and operations available for review.

FNS may request additional information for evaluation purposes. In the event that additional information is required, FNS will allow sufficient time for the State Agency and the LEA to comply with the request.

Application Process

Complete the following applications:

- The *Seamless Summer Option Application*, Sections 1-3, must be completed and submitted to the State Agency for approval prior to starting the program: http://dese.mo.gov/divadm/food/PDF/seamless_summer_option_app.pdf .
- On-line *Summer Application Agreement* must be completed and submitted to the State Agency for prior approval of program participation.

Deadline for Application

All forms must be completed and written State Agency approval provided before implementing this program. The deadline for applications is May 31, 2008.